

To: Christ, Lisa[Christ.Lisa@epa.gov]
From: Fultz, Christopher
Sent: Wed 2/12/2014 4:03:12 PM
Subject: RE: SRMD Biweekly Report, 1-16-14 (WVA Spill, V2)

Hello Lisa,

Round two of the WVA Spill & Sampling Discussion:

A task force comprised of representatives from the West Virginia Governor's Office (WVGO), West Virginia Bureau of Public Health (WVBPH), West Virginia National Guard (WVNG), and the CDC requested recommendations for a sampling plan from the EPA. Dr. Mike Messner and Chris Fultz recommended using existing Total Coliform Rule (TCR) sample sites and a CDC Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) study as an economical, representative sample protocol. At the recommendation of Dr. Messner and Mr. Fultz, CDC representatives agreed to include both cold and hot water samples in their CASPER study, with commitments from the WVBPH and WVNG to provide sample collection materials and testing sites. EPA Region Three agreed to initiate TCR sample collection and analysis procedures, with the WVBPH agreeing to summarize and report the findings. Dr. Messner and Mr. Fultz assisted in establishing the research question, sampling methodologies, as well as determining the sample size and associated confidence intervals.

Christopher Van Fultz
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From: Fultz, Christopher
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 10:05 AM
To: Christ, Lisa
Subject: RE: SRMD Biweekly Report, 1-16-14

Hello Lisa,

As per your request, provided below is a write-up of the WVA Spill & Sampling Discussion:

On January 9, 2014 an industrial accident resulted in leakage of crude MCHM, a chemical used in the coal industry, into the Elk River in West Virginia. West Virginia Water immediately began a cleanup of the water distribution system and disseminated information to the nearly 100,000 customers directly affected on flushing techniques to remedy concerns within their homes and businesses. Due to continuing public pressure and media reports of continued presence of MCHM, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of West Virginia, requested assistance from the EPA in developing a sampling plan to address MCHM presence within affected water systems.

On February 06, 2014, Vicky Binetti of EPA Region Three contacted Eric Burneson, Acting Division Director of the Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water, Standards and Risk Management Division, requesting assistance in this endeavor. Dr. Mike Messner and Chris Fultz were tasked with meeting with representatives from the CDC and EPA Region 3. The meeting addressed preliminary data reviews and discussion, and concerns surrounding the situation, particularly public perception and political sensitivity. After nearly two hours, the meeting was adjourned and discussion were tabled until the following day.

At 1000 on February 07, 2014, the original meeting group, along with representatives of the West Virginia Governor's Office (WVGO), West Virginia Bureau of Public Health (WVBPH) and West Virginia National Guard (WVNG) participated in a conference call. Multiple approaches were discussed, with statistical validity of the sample, economic considerations and easing public concerns being major topics of consideration. Using existing Total Coliform Rule (TCR) sample sites, which address water treatment adequacy and integrity of the distribution system and a CDC Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) study, an epidemiologic tool which incorporates cluster sampled home interviews and questionnaires, an economical, representative sample was established. CDC representatives agreed to include both cold and hot water samples in their CASPER study, with commitments from the WVBPH and WVNG to provide sample collection materials and testing sites. EPA Region Three agreed to initiate TCR sample collection and analysis procedures, with the WVBPH agreeing to finalize and report the findings.

Dr. Messner and Mr. Fultz's contributions included establishing the research question, sampling

methodologies, determining the sample size and associated confidence intervals, and finally, creating a sampling plan which would provide representation of the affected population.

Does this work? Since it was truly a team process I don't want to overemphasize the work Mike and I contributed.

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From: Fultz, Christopher
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Christ, Lisa
Subject: RE: SRMD Biweekly Report, 1-16-14

Hello Lisa,

Provided below is a quick rundown/update of the projects I'm working on...

EPA's Risk Assessment Forum – SRMD was tasked with interviewing risk assessors and risk managers in OW to catalog current practices, analytical tools and methodologies for assessing uncertainty and variability. Interviews with OW risk assessors and risk managers is scheduled to be completed by the President's Day holiday. Next steps are to include compiling interview notes and entering results into the Risk Assessment Forum database, assisting forum members with developing a SOW for contract support on developing themes from the collective results and finally, producing a report of the OWs findings. (Chris Fultz 202-564-8907)

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From: Christ, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 12:44 PM
To: OW-OGWDW-Targeting & Analysis Branch
Subject: FW: SRMD Biweekly Report, 1-16-14

All –

Please send your biweekly entries to me by COB today..

Thank you in advance-

Lisa

From: Oshida, Phil
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2014 11:17 AM
To: Lopez-Carbo, Maria
Cc: Bissonette, Eric; Cooper, Tiffany; Newberry, Debbie; Corr, Elizabeth; Schuck, Tracey; Burneson, Eric; Carroll, Gregory; Christ, Lisa; Hautman, Dan; Miller, Wynne; Rodgers-Jenkins, Crystal
Subject: SRMD Biweekly Report, 1-16-14

SRMD Biweekly Report

January 16, 2014

Rules/Analytic Progress

RTCR Minor Corrections – On January 13, OGWDW transmitted the Direct Final Rule and Accompanying Proposed Rule for the Minor Corrections to the Revisions to the Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) to OW for their review, approval and transmittal to OP for Administrator signature

and publication in the *Federal Register*. The informal workgroup for this Tier 3 action (OP, OGC and OECA) concurred on the Minor Corrections after providing comments on the text of the *Federal Register* notices. (Sean Conley, 202-564-1781)

Regulatory Determinations 3 – On November 27, OMB provided comments to OGWDW as part of the 90-day review of the Regulatory Determinations 3 (RD3) *Federal Register* (FR) package. OGWDW prepared responses to the OMB comments and sent the FR package to OMB on January 8. OGWDW will brief the new OMB desk officer on January 23 and expects to complete OMB review within the next month. The FR package announces preliminary determinations for contaminants listed on the third Contaminant Candidate List (CCL3). (Zeno Bain, 202-564-5970)

GAO Review of UCMR Program -- On January 9, GAO informed SRMD that they have finalized their report (“EPA has Improved its Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Program, but Additional Action is Needed”) and have incorporated many of the edits suggested in OW’s December comments. They said the final report is substantially similar to the draft and that it will be available to EPA (and the public) in 30 days. GAO expects to follow up in ~4 years to review our progress towards acting on their recommendations. (Greg Carroll, 513-569-7948)

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Stakeholder Support

Multi-Agency *Legionella* Conference Call - On January 9, representatives from EPA (OW, ORD and Region 3), ASDWA, CDC and several states (Nevada, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, and Minnesota) participated on a conference call to discuss issues related to *Legionella*. This call was a follow up to the December 13, 2013 State/EPA conference call that was convened in response to states’ interest in EPA’s input on the use of Copper-Silver ionization technology for treatment of *Legionella*, mostly in a health care facility/hotel settings. The call served as a starting point for the formation of a collaborative Task Force of all participating entities. The Task Force product should assist states and affected facilities with their decision making process for controlling *Legionella* in drinking water supplies. The group will reconvene to further discuss the development of such a document, roles of each Task Force participant, resource needs, and a timeline. (Cesar Cordero, 202-564-3716)

Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act (RLDWA) – On December 19, EPA posted a revised Summary of the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act (RLDWA) and Frequently Asked Questions in anticipation of the exemption for fire hydrants in the Community Fire Safety Act (CFSa) of 2013. On December 20, President Obama signed the CFSa into law. Additionally, EPA has been working with the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers

(AHAM) on the applicability of the RLDWA with respect to dishwashers and potential means of demonstrating compliance with the new lead free requirements. (Brian D'Amico, 202-566-1069)

EPA's Risk Assessment Forum - SRMD was tasked with interviewing risk assessors and risk managers in OW to catalog current practices, analytical tools and methodologies for assessing uncertainty and variability. SRMD is finalizing interviews with OGWDW risk assessors and risk managers; the original number of people on the list has increased by nearly 20% due to recommendations from interviewees. Concurrently, data are being entered into the Risk Assessment Forum database, which will be utilized to identify what practices and tools are most common, which practices may be less beneficial, and, finally, what training opportunities may be warranted. Bi-weekly meetings will continue throughout the quarter until an assessment of next steps has been made by the Risk Assessment Forum Panel; said assessment may warrant continuing interviews or conducting interviews.

(Chris Fultz 202-564-8907)

Optimization Program –

· **Missouri to join the AWOP Network** - The Optimization Team, in partnership with ASDWA, facilitated an Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) kickoff meeting with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MO DNR) on December 18-19, 2013 in Jefferson City, MO. Participants included representatives from USEPA Region 7, MO DNR's Central Office, as well as the Kansas City and Northeast MO Regional Offices (where the majority of surface water treatment plants are located). Discussions during the meeting included an AWOP overview, identification of potential benefits and challenges to implementing an AWOP in Missouri, and a "win-win" discussion on implementing AWOP. Additional demonstrations included the use of Optimization Assessment Software, as well as other data tracking and analysis tools and approaches for prioritizing water systems with highest public health risk. The kickoff meeting was well-received by MO DNR staff and a path forward was established to begin disseminating the AWOP message and goals both internally at MO DNR and externally to water systems and operators. MO DNR foresees an AWOP focusing on microbial, DBP, and potentially distribution system optimization (longer term) issues. (Alison Dugan, 513-569-7122)

· **Distribution System Performance Based Training in Alabama** - On December 11, 2013, the Optimization Team, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), conducted the last session of a Performance Based Training (PBT) pilot project focused on distribution system optimization. A parent water system and six of their purchasing systems, which ranged in size from 3,000 to 40,000 served customers, successfully completed the PBT series. All systems realized reduced disinfection byproducts (DBPs), increased chlorine residual, and a decrease in customer complaints throughout their systems. This was largely attributed to optimization at the water plant and efforts in the distribution

systems to reduce water age. The operators also gained an “appreciation” of the importance of collecting, tracking and trending water quality data to assess system performance and address water quality issues. During this session, trainers provided a summary of distribution system optimization strategies to improve water quality and encouraged participants to continue optimization as an ongoing activity in their systems. The training materials and lessons learned from this pilot are being utilized by Alabama and other AWOP states to train distribution system operators. (Matthew Alexander, 513-569-7380).